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PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Testimony by
Rep. Mary G. Fritz, 90th District
Cheshire-Wallingford
on
SB 207: An Act Authorizing the Inclusion of Nurseries and
Greenhouses in Farmland Preservation Programs

February 23, 2011

Chairman Meyer, Chairman Roy, and honorable members of the Environment Committee,

For the record, my name is Representative Mary Fritz. I represent the 90th District which is made of parts of the towns of Wallingford and Cheshire.

I appear before you today in strong support of Senate Bill 207 "An Act Authorizing the Inclusion of Nurseries and Greenhouses in Farmland Preservation Programs."

This inclusion would certainly increase greatly the amount of land in the farmland preservation program.

It is important to remember that horticulture - nurseries, flowers, were included in the definition of agriculture. I did that in the 80's to help all my Cheshire growers.

Because there is a nursery or a greenhouse on the land does not mean that the activity is not agriculture, not that the land is not agricultural land.

Please remember - agriculture has risen to a \$3.5 billion level - a very productive industry. Much of the money is because of the horticultural products which are agriculture.

Please support this bill so that we can continue to increase and save our farmland.

Thank you,

Mary Fritz
Assistant Deputy Speaker